The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was not written for publication and is not binding precedent of the Board.

Paper No. 56

## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte MASAAKI HIROKI et al.

Appeal No. 1998-2865 Application 08/372,899

ORDER VACATING ORAL HEARING AND ORDER REMANDING TO EXAMINER

The Oral Hearing scheduled for January 20, 2004, at 9:00 a.m., 1225 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Gateway 2, Arlington, VA 22202, has been vacated without prejudice.

A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was filed on September 25, 2002, (Paper No. 54), and has been matched with this application at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences. The IDS needs to be considered by the Examiner with respect to compliance with the criteria set forth in 37 CFR

Appeal No. 1998-2865 Application 08/372,899

§§ 1.97 and 1.98. A communication notifying applicant of the Examiner's decision is required.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is remanded to the Examiner for such consideration of the IDS, appropriate notification to the applicant, and for such further action as may be appropriate.

It is important that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences be informed promptly of any action affecting the appeal.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

By:

CRAIG R. FEINBERG

Program and Resource Administrator

Robinson Intellectual Property Law Office PMB 955 21010 Southbank Street Potomac Falls, VA 20165

CRF:11f